

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

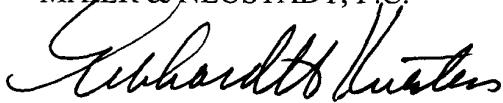
This amendment amends this application to include a cross-reference to the priority International Application No. PCT/JP02/06861, filed on July 5, 2002 and Japanese Application Nos. 2001-205220, filed July 5, 2001, 2001-257881, filed August 28, 2001, 2001-260022, filed August 29, 2001, and 2001-261644, filed August 30, 2001, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Claims 1-26 are presently active in the application, and Claim 26 having been amended by way of the present preliminary amendment.

Examination on the merits of Claims 1-26 are believed to be in order and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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